NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

Great Activity at the Headquarters of the Army.

Gen. Sherman's Report of Gen. Stevens' Operations on the Coosaw River.

Important Reports from the War Department to Congress.

Fienator Sumner's Speech on the Trent Affair,

DITION OF GENERAL M'CLELLAN. ars usual for him when well. To-night he was much hausted, and retired carly, declining to see his own

ACTIVITY AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY. Adjutant General Williams, now in charge of all the susiness at the headquarters of the Army of the Poto-nac, with the entire staff of General McClellan, are as may as bees to-night. The greatest activity has been ping on in the Quartermaster's Department to-day and ns have been made for some time.

THE RUMORS RESPECTING THE FAMILY OF THE AD-

It is ascertained on inquiry that it is now settled to the satisfaction of all parties that there are no grounds for the charges against Adjutant General Thomas or any member of his family.

MOVEMENTS OF GENERAL BOSECRANS. General Rosecrans, with Major Crawford, of his staff, ave left for New York. They will arrive there on route

Last evening colored signal rockets, thrown up by the memy, were seen in the direction of Hawkhurst Mill. They displayed red and blue colors. It is supposed they had some connection with Gen. Smith's foraging expedition, and that this plan was adopted to give information at the rebel headquarters of the retirement of the foraging force. A Union guide informed me to-day that a regiment of the rebels is encamped on the back of a hill one mile northwest of Hunter's Mill, and two miles from the main encampments about Hawkhurst Mill. By climb-ing any of a clump of tall trees on this hill a panoramic thus enabling prompt information to be given of any ad-

erable anxiety is manifested to listen to the peech of Senator Summer to-morrow, on the Trent affair. This desire not only arises from the fact that he is chairman of the Committee on Fereign Affairs, but that he is man of the Committee on Foreign Amary, out that no income to be largely in correspondence with the leading statemen of Europe, and that he is a linguist, a finished scholar and a fine orator. Hence public expectation is at the tip toe to hear him. He will commence speaking at Summer will defund the position taken by Secretary Summer will defund the position taken by Secretary Sward in the surrender of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, as he only legal and just one that the government could

THE OPERATIONS OF GENERAL STEVENS AT PORT BOYAL PERBY—SUCCESS OF THE EXPEDITION. The following letter has been received at the Adju-

General Stevens, agreeably to his instruction, Port Royal Island. As soon as his report read will be forwarded.

In the Senate to-day, the amondment to the iron clad the Secretary of the Navy, to contract for them, was

was a Brigadier General at the last session of Congress, and whether Mr. Stanton could have legally been considered his successor at that session, when every Senato, knows that the whole matter has been settled by the formal nomination of Lane to the Senate at this session formal nomination of Lane to the Senate at this session as a Brigadier General, and that he has sent his resignation as Senator to the Kansas Legislature. The Senators seem to be engaged in discussing a dead horse, instead of meeting the live quastion immediately before them, whether the regular appointse of Governor Robinson shall have his seat, or whether they will be able to stave Stanten off to please ate of the United States.

of General James Shields as Brigadier General in the army. The Senate not going into executive session to-day, action was not taken on the nomination.

DOINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. nothing having been done of consequence, except to ap-propriate fifty thousand dollars to be employed by the head of the Agricultural Bureau in the Interior Depart-ment for the purchase of seeds.

his bill favorable to a mint in that city. Ex-Congress man George Briggs is here, working for the bill, he claim

AFFAIRS ON THE LOWER POTOWAC. There is no report of anything of importance from the stomac flotilla. The King Philip arrived to-day. She Potomac flottila. The King Philip arrived to-day. each is heavily armored, and keeps open the channel, the ice

AFFAIRS AT THE NAVY YARD. The machine shops at the Navy Yard are kept busy slight and day, boring and rifling heavy gun eastings,

THE TRIAL OF COLONEL KERRIGAN. In the Kerrigan trial to-day, the accused introduced festimony to show that his conversations with Virgini-ans at the outposts were held with a view to draw from

them information useful to the federal cause. Se geant Nolan, of the Sixth cavalry, testified that he day when the rebels took Mason's Hill. They were fired upon and returned the fire, killing some of the enemy, after which Kerrigan brought his piakets off in good

Colonel Harlan, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania cavairy, has been removed, on the recommendation of the Examin-

COMMISSIONS FOR OFFICERS OF THE FIRST NEW YORK

CAVALRY.

All the officers of the First New York cavalry regiment. Colonel A. T. McReynolds, yesterday received their coanmissions from Governor Morgan. They are all dated Sanuary 1, 1862, and were regarded as an appropriate and acceptable New Year's present. The regiment in splendly equipped. The horses are in excellent condition

ance of the regiment. It is greatly in want of regimental and battalion colors, however, the absence of which is particularly noticeable when the regiment is out on review. brass shoulder scales, which add much to the fine appe

PRESENTATION OF COLORS.

A magnificent stand of colors, made by the lady relations of the officers of the Fifty-fifth New York regiment, were presented to the regiment to-day by Hon. F. A. Conkling, from New York city, with an eloquent speech. They were received by Colonel de Trobriand with a very happy and graceful reply. There was present on the occasion an unusually brilliant assemblage, including the President and Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. Green, the family of Senator Harris. General Shields. General Keyes mily of Senator Harris, General Shields, General Keyes and staff, and a number of other distinguished persons

After the presentation the company partock of an elegant collation, during which very pertinent speeches were made by the President, General Shields, Colonel de Tro-briand and General Keyes. General Peck, commanding the brigade, was prevented by illness from being pre-

The question of the expedition of England, France and pain against Mexico, as submitted to the Senate of the Mexico, changes the whole question, and so complicates it for the time that, as submitted to the Senate, it cannot be acted upon until our government is further advised by

In reply to a call of the House of Representatives upon the Secretary of War, for a statement of the number of men enlisted in each of the eleven regiments, authorized to be added to the regular army by the act of July 29,

1861, the Secretary says .-To furnish a list of the names of all the officers in the regiments referred to in the resolution is, with the present clerical force in the office of the Adjutant General, a simple impossibility; but in General Orders No. 106, and in the Army Register for Soptember last, a complete list of all these names will be found.

The following is also submitted:-STATEMENT CALLED FOR BY A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DEC. 23, 1861, SHOWING THE APPROX-

IMATE NUMBER OF MEN ENLIPTED IN THE ADDITIONAL R MENTS OF THE REGULAR ARMY, AS AUTHORIZED BY AC CONGRESS, APPROVED JULY 29, 1861.	
Cavalry—Sixth regiment. Artillery—Fifth regiment. Infantry—Eleventh regiment. Twelfth regiment. Thirteenth regiment. Fourteenth regiment. Sixteenth regiment. Sixteenth regiment. Seventeenth regiment. Eighteenth regiment. Nineteenth regiment.	950 700 300 720 340 750 725 500 320 ,300 375
Total	

INCHEASE OF THE CLERICAL PORCE OF THE WAR

ment has required the Secretary to ask Congress for the following increase of clerks, laborers and messengers in the various bureaus of the department:-

l	Secon Olan Olan	Class	(danger)	Laborers	Officers.
ı	Secretary of War's office. 2 2			12	- 2
ı	Office Adjutant General. 3 4	13	2	_	1
ı	Office Quartermast'r Gen. 2 3	5	1	_	-
ı	Office Commissary Gen 1 2	-	-	1	
ı	Office Chief Engineer	1	-	-	
ı	Office Topograph'l Engrs. — —	-	-	-	
ı	Office Surgeon General	-	-	1	
ı	Office I aymaster General— 4	4	1	-	
•	Office Chief of Ordnance. 1 2	1	-	-	
ı		-	-	-	- 6

comber 30:—
c simple object of this dash was to destroy the batterness which the enemy appeared to have erected on Coosaw river for the obstruction of the pation and the passage of that stream, and the passage of that stream in for the insult in firing the steamer Mayflower, on her recent passage tugh that stream, for the purpose of sounding the hof the channel. The affair succeeded perfectly, and memy were driven out of their batteries, their batteries, their batteries demonsted and the property found there brought or destroyed, with little or no loss of life on our After the object of the movements was executed, ral Stevens, agreeably to his instruction, returned to shall provide that hereafter the non-commi ment is hereby authorized at the headquarters of each the different military geographical departments and ar mies in the field, those necessarily employed in the re-cruiting service, recruits in depot, at rendezvous, and cluded in the aggregate strength of the army as fixed by existing laws, but be counted as an addition to said strength, which said addition is hereby authorized.

THE PERDING OF DISABLED HORSES. In answer to a resolution of the House of Re sport of the Quartermaster General, showing his action answer to a circular addressed to all officers and agents

of the Quartermaster's Department:—

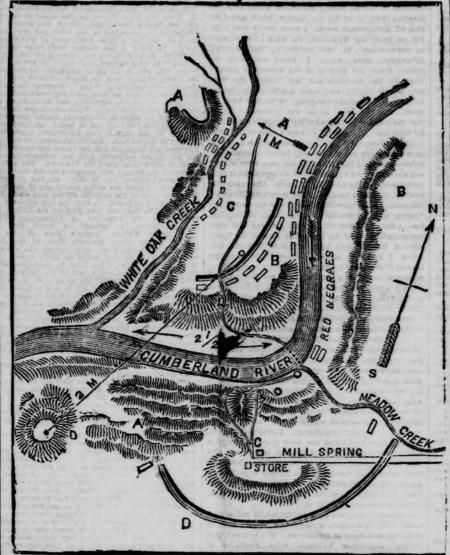
AGESTANT QUANTERMAPTER'S OFFICE, S.T. LOUIS, Dec. 20, 1861.

In answer to your notice of the 5th instant, I have the booor to report, that about the 27th day of October hast I placed seventy one unserviceable horses on the farm of Charles Choufeau, Esq., near this city. No written contract was made, but a verbal agreement was entered into, to the effect that said horses were to be fed what hay and grain they could eat till taken away far service, for which I was to pay him thirty-live cents per head per diem. Thirty of the horses I received from higher McKinstry, and twelve of them from Capt. Zagony. Others were received from various officers, and had been in field service. I placed them on the farm to be recruited. About forty of the horses are not recruited, and are not considered worth keeping, and were reported by me, in an inventory, to the Chief Quartermaster of this department, for inspection and condemnation, on the 13th inst. The balance have become serviceable.

Respectfully, P. T. TURNLEY, Asst. Quartermaster. To General M. C. Mings, Quartermaster General United States.

THE REBEL GENERAL ZOLLICOFFER'S POSITION ON THE CUMBERLAND RIVER.

The Intrenched Position of the Rebel General Zollicoffer on the Cumberland-Our Map of the Locality, &c., Showing the Heights he Has Fortified and What They Command, &c.



as nearly as possible the position held by the rebel Gon. Zollicoffer. To the eye of a military man it will prove that ous region on both sides of the Cumberland river, at a through the valleys of White Oak creek, on the north side, and Meadow creek on the south. Some idea may be formed of the topography of the country when we state that the hills, although immediately upon the banks, rise to an altitude of three hundred, three hundred and fifty, and four hundred feet above the level of the river, as at

the points marked in the map-A, B, C and D. A is 350 feet above the level. B is 400 feet above the level. C is 300 feet above the level.

D is 400 feet above the level. The rebel forces on the north side of the Cumberland nsigt of six regiments, stationed on a height four hundred feet above the river, commanding the approach from both directions; and on the south side, four regiments, commanding the valley of Meadow creek, and a

ression through the hills from the south about one mile west of Mill Spring. It is stated that Zeilicoffer has in his forces one regiment of negroes, located just in the bend of the river, on the southern bank.

follows:—From Somerset, about fifteen miles, southwest; from Waltsboro, on the Cumberland river, twelve miles; tion. The position commands all the coal mines and many of the salt wells in that part of Pulaski county

tacked is from the north, by the valley of White Oak creek, and a scaling of the hills in his rear, or by an adquire larger forces than General Schoepf has in his divi-Schoepf's purt, beyond so much as shall confine Zollicoffer to his present jutrenchments and prevent his retreat

the animals. The contract system thus far here has failed entirely. Advertisements for bids for almost everything required have been made, but not in a single instance have the lowest bidders come forward and

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, STEWART VAN VLIET, Brigadier General. To General M. C. Mass, Quartermaster General. The contract with Ramsdell agrees to pay forty cents per diem per horse, and each horse is to be stabled

THE COST OF TRANSPORTING TROOPS AND WAR MU

In answer to the resolution of the House of Repres tives, asking to be furnished with the cost of the trans portation of arms, ordnance and munitions of war to that lat of May last, the Secretary of War has submitted a examination into the accounts of the various disbursing since May 1, 1861. These accounts for the third and fourth quarters of 1861, containing the expenditures to impossible to make the required examination." The fail, ure of the Quartermaster General to furnish the required Information has occasioned much comment, and will probably be made the subject of further investigation. The army regulations require that every officer razident in the United States having public money to account for shall render his account and vouchers within three more than six months since the expiration of the quarte strange that the Quartermaster General could furnish no cient gravity and importance to occasion a formal inqui.

MEETING OF THE UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL A meeting of the United States Agricultural Society was held here to-day. It was organized by the President. W. P. Hubbard, of Obio. Among these present were Hen. of New Mexico; Mr. Calvert, of Maryland; Mr. Smyth, of van, of Obio, and the Commissioner of Public Buildings, B. B. French.

The Provest Guard are faithfully executing the order against keeping open barrooms. The liquid contents of two extensive establishments were confiscated and emp-ticd, into the streets last night, and their proprietors

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS. The 8th of January has not been observed in this city to-day, except by the business community and others, who have been obliged to write the date in business

mindful of the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans toast given and speech uttered to the glorious memory of the galiant hero, General Jackson.

General Shields was serenaded to-night, at the Herndon House, by the band of the Fifth artillery, under direction of Quartermaster Murphy, of the Thirty-eighth New York regiment. The weather being stormy, the General's friends assembled in the parlor of the hotel, where he was welcomed in an enthusiastic speech by Captain Hogan, of the Iriah Brigade. General Shields responded at some length. After expressing his thank' for the cordial reception given him, he proceeded to de mise was possible and honorable, he was for compr

crisis, to escape suspicion and arraignment, but this was a matter of little consequence. It had neither influenced his feelings nor actions, although it is a matter of deep and painful regret that, in such a moment of pertl to the country, we should have a class of citizens among us wh, manifest their patriotic ardor by abusing Northern men rather than by fighting Southern men. His friends might be answered that he would never violate his oath back upon the country in its hour of adversity that had army for its obedience and discipline, which were highly creditable to the General-in Chief, and the administration which supports him. He predicted for our army a successful career, and thanked his friends, and bade them

The book now in press, entitled the "Life and Times of James Buchanan," it is understood by his few remaining friends here was written by ex-Consul and ex-reporter Francis J. Grund, who, it is said, has been

The Norfolk Day Book of Monday says that on Sunday a saw mill in the Norfolk Navy Yard was fired by an in

Wythe county, Va., were destroyed by fire on Worlnes

Judge Hemphill, ex-Senator in the Con-United States, and since a member of the Confederate Congress, died in Richmond on Saturday morning. Nobody will come forward to take the office of collector

Chief Collector of the Confederate War Tax in Virginia. in a formal advertisement, threatens to appoint some one from an outside district to perform that duty, which, in his proclamation, he admits to be odious to the people

there. There have been several fires in Charleston, S. C., during the past few days.

Meeting of Boston Bank Presidents,

Boston, Jan. 8, 1862.
At a meeting of the Boston Bank Presidents to-day Franklin Haven, of the Merchants' Bank, Samuel H. Walley, of the Revers Bank, and R. E. Eates, of the Bank of Commerce, were chosen a committee to act in con-junction with similar committees from New York and Philadelphia, to adjust with the Secretary of the Treasury the payments yet remaining to be made by the banks to the United States, or from the Treasury to the banks. The committee leave for Washington to-morrow.

Serious Riot at Carbonear, Newfound-

TARY SENT FROM ST. JOHNS TO THE Sr. Jouns, N. F., Jan. 8, 1862.

Some twelve or fourteen persons were shot, but none killed outright. Troops were sent from here at midnight to preserve order. The rioters did not injure the tele-graph wires.

Accident on the Illinois Central Rail-

The Cincinnati express ran into the Hyde Park train o

Fire at Chicago.

A fire broke out in the clothing establishment farks, corner of Lake and Wells streets, but nig tock, which was valued at \$25,000, was largely a y water, but is fully, insured.

IMPORTANT FROM KENTUCKY.

brought five prisoners into Columbia who were endeavor-ing to join Gen. Zollicoffer. The party report Gen. Zolli coffer, with four thousand men, between Greensboro and Columbia. Greensboro had been almost depopulated by the rebels; but Gen. Ward's Union brigade had gone there

The rebels captured five soldiers who were guarding Boralis Forry, killing a man named James and taking fifteen or twenty guns. The guard were surprised by rebel detachments on each side of the river.

GENERAL MANSFIELD'S DIVISION.

OUR NEWPORT NEWS CORRESPONDENCE. CAMP BUTLER, NEWFORT NEWS, Va., Jan. 5, 1862.
How the Heldlays Were Spent in Camp—Large Christmas
Tree, with Presents for the Soldiert—Santa Clause Olad in
"Sheddy"—New Year's Calls in Regular Style—Our Returned Prisoners—Affecting Scenes—Great Battle on Day
Before Christmas—Want of Reading Matter for the Soldiers. &c.

legitimate and ill-gitimate pleasures; some drunkenness, of course, but a great deal of true homelike happiness, has reigned in camp; and if our friends far off have thought kindly of us, we have thought none the less of them, and ardently hoped that next Christmas will bring peace in the land and joy in those homes where now so many a chair is vacant. In the Seventh regiment New York Volunteers Christmas was spent in regular old Ten-tonic style. The officers had each contributed a small sum, with which we bought presents of various kinds to adorn a buge Christmas tree that was planted in front of sum, with which we bought presents of various kinds to adorn a huge Christmas tree that was planted in front of the colonel's quarters. There were pipes—the short Irish and the long purch—packs of cards, pocket handerchiefs, and a hundred ther trailes too numerous to mention; but what attracted most attention of all was an edgy of Santa Claus dress.d in one of the "shootiy" uniforms. He of course created a great deal of fun, and was in fact the hero of the evening. The bank discoursed sweet moste all the evening, and each company glorified in the extra silowance of two kegs of lager bier. A good many of the officers had arranged ther own private it to facests; and, taking it altegether, Christmas Eve was a ent in a loyous and orderly manner. It was a delightful relief from the dull monotony of camp life.

New Year's day was kept generally in great style, and colls were made after regular knickerbocker fashion. Several of the officers, prominent amongst them Surgeon Have and Captan flyrg, of the First Nas York regiment vol nteers, had tables set, and visiting was kept up all day long. Of course a great deal of from was created; but we could not help regretting that the dear ladies were so far away to do the real honors on such an occasion. No less than one hundred and seventy-eight packages were received for the soldiers by the Adams Express. Company on New Year's Eve, and as "seme" of them contained bottles, a few disgraceful scenes were the consequence. Since then the express packages are opened, as was the custom during last summer and fall, and this of course acts as an effectual check on the introduction of the "demon."

The scene when the steamer George Washington, which brought down our released prisoners on Friday last, lander at our dock cannot well be described by words. Scheckmantions of joy when friend recognized friend, as or so many months of absence and suffering. It is said that one of the released soldiers, a man of nearly fitry years of age, when he came on board the Goorge Washington, clasped the Colonei's quarters. There were pipes the short Irish

every one had to suffer "the extreme penaity of the law."

The soldiers are all comfertably housed in their snug barracks, and all thoughts are bent to find out how to relieve the monetony of the long winter days. It would be a real blessing if some of the philanthropic friends of the soldiers would send a good selection of books. Our religious friends have supplied us bountfully with books and pamphiets in their special line, and we say all honor and success to their nobe eithers to premote morantly and order in the camps; but the soldier's mind requires as much as his body. A variety of food, and a little of the lighter kind of mental food, such as works on history, travels and good novels, would be highly acceptable. Each company could select one of their number to act as librarian, and I have no doubt would checruliy return the books at the end of the winer, if the donors so desired. If we are correct, the Adams Express has offered to transmit packages containing seth gifts free of charge. Anything that can prevent the soldier from getting into idle, dissipa ed habits merits the attention of every one who has the weitare and discipline of the army at heart.

beautiful play of "Dot," adapted by Bourcicault from plays, and the characters are all strongly drawn; but their personation by a powerful cast was adm rable, and the accessories of scenery, splendid fairy tableaux and excellent music and dancing contributed greatly to the general effect. The music was particularly attractive. The variations upon "Auld Robin Gray," by which the piece was introduced by the orchestra, were performed in beautiful style, and the fine airs by which the piece was accompanied in its progress had a very

brusque, genial, jolly, honest husband, John Peery, bingle, a teamster. The part of Dot was done to the lite by Miss Fanny Browne, whose pretty little figure and appearance were well suited to the role. Equally well adapted to the part of Peerybingle figure and appearance were well suited to the crie. Equally well adapted to the part of Peerybingle was the appearance and costume of Pearson, who looked every inch the class of Englishman he represented, while his accent was faultiese. The contrast between the big, clomay, good-natured, warm-hearted man and his charming little wife was striking. Both played their parts to geriection, if we may except the singing of "Auld Robin Gray" by Miss Browne, nature not having gittel her with a voice for such a song. But she made up for the singing in the acting. The voice of Pearson is excellent.

But, strange to say, the most prominent and extraordinary character in the piece is that in which the personator has least to say. We allude to Tilly Slowbay, an overgrown charity girl, who takes care of the baby of Dot and her husband. As in the case of Miss Cushman in Meg Merries, the fue performance of Clarke impacted a peculiar interest to the part. He looked and acted the idotic nurses so well that he must be seen to be appreciated. Description would fail to give a just idea of it. "Caseb Plummer," by Mr. Barton Hill, was a very superior piece of acting, and Hertha, the blind daughter of Caleb, by Miss Ada t lifton, was excellent. Instemport as Edward Plummer, Invides as old Tacketon, and Miss Wilkes as Mary Fielding, all acquitted themseives creditably. The performance wound up with the account of the part.

The Connecticut Mass Union Convention The Mass Union Convention assembled at ten e'clock this morning. The attendance was much smaller than was expected. Hon. James T. Pratt presided. The

doings were participated in by Union democrats and re publicans, representing each county in the state. The forencon was principally occupied in arranging prelimiparies and discussing resolutions. The policy of nominating a State ticket by this Conven

The policy of nominating a State ticket by this Convention was fully discussed, and it was decided to nominate a ticket. At the afternoon session a committee of four from each county was appointed to report a ticket for State officers. They reported for Governor William A. Buckingham, of Norwich; for Lieutenant Governor, Reger Averill, of Danbury; for State, J. Hammond Trumbull, of Hartford; for Treasurer, Gabriel W. Coit, of Middletown; Comproller, Leman W. Cutter, of Watertown. The Governor, Secretary and Comptroller are republicans, and now in office. The Leutenant Governor and Treasurer are Union democrats. The ticket was adopted unanimously, sad it is expected that the Republican Convention, which meets on the 16th, will adopt the same ticket. The resolutions were for sinking all party lines, and uniting with one heart and voice in the one great object of aiding and sustaining the government of the United States in its present mighty struggle for matican existence. That all who refuse at this orisis to give the government a hearty support are liable to the imputation of being her secret fees. A conditional Union man is an unconditional traitor. For the support of the government in a vigorous prosecution of the war we pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

A State Ceutral Committee was appointed, who were authorized to proceed to the organization of the Union party of Connecticut.

The Convention was disappointed in the non-appearance of Hon Andy Johnson, of Tennessee. Arriving at New York, on his way to Hartford, he was suddenly called te Kentucky to take part in a forward movement of our troops there.

The Convention was disappointed in the ron-appearance of Hon Andy Johnson, of Tennessee. Arriving at New York, on his way to Hartford, he was suddenly called te Kentucky to take part in a forward movement of our troops there. tion was fully discussed, and it was decided to nominate

IMPORTANT FROM WESTERN VIRGINIA

Defeat and Retreat of the Rebels from Blue's Gap, Va.

Brisk Action in Tucker County and Dispersion of the Rebels,

A special despatch to the Intelligencer, from Cumber and, last night, says that a detachment of General Fifth Ohio regiment, left Romney last night at twelve o'clock, and attacked the rebels, 2,000 strong, at Blue's

Gap, east of Romney, at daylight this morning The rebeis were completely routed, with the loss of fifteen killed, two pieces of cannon, their wagons, &c.; with twenty prisoners, including one commiss

It is rumored here this afternoon that the rebels are is

full retreat from Hancock. CINCINKATI, Jan. 8. 1862. A special despatch to the Gazette from Huttonsville says that General Milroy is still moving. An expedition sens

Our loss is none.

under Captain Lacey, into Tucker county, dispersed 400 rebels, capturing a commissary and a large amount of his stores, a first lieutenant and a private. Four robels were found dead on the ground, and a large number wounded Our detachment is still in hot pursuit.

OUR ROMNEY CORRESPONDENCE.

CAMP KNYS, RONNEY, Va., Jav. 1, 1842.
New Year's Day in Camp—The Enemy Retiring to Wins'
chester—Whereabouts and Health of Brigadier General
Kelly—A Small Skirmish With the Enemy—The Condition of the Rebels near Springfield, &c. New Year dawned upon a very quiet camp at Romney

there is very little being done here now-nothing th looks like an advance movement. Officers are making themselves and their men as comfortable as possible. Very little scouting is done. There is no probability of an attack or of progress. The enemy seem to be drawing their pickets in nearer and nearer to Winchester; at least they never show themselves in this region any more. Gon. Kelly is still at Cumberland, and in very feeble health. It is doubtful whether he will ever be able to take the field again, and General Reynolds is daily expected here

Colonel Dunning, of the Seventh Ohio regiment, is in command here now; and Colonel Gavin, of the Seventh Indiana regiment, is in command at Springfield. He has the Indiana Seventh, Captain Sahl's, Captain Russell's and Captain Flery's cavairy and one gun with him.

Yesterday Captain C. H. Russell, with fifty of his menter Springfield, crossed our picket line and proceeded tweive miles on the Winchester road. Having proceeded tweive miles, they came upon the enemy's picket. The picket fed, and Captain Russell pursued and succeeded in capturing one of the pickets and his horse. He still pressed on till he came within a half a mile of the enemy's camp, which is situated near the North River Mills, when the Captain, deseming it not prudent to proceed further, ordered an about face. The rebels came out and showed light. Capt. Russell retired about three miles, when taking advantage of a favorable position in a ravine, he made a stand. The enemy advanced far enough to exchange a dozen shote, and again broke and fled, leaving two of their number wounded on the road-side. The Captain with his company returned to camp all sate and sound, a little after dark, bringing his prisoners and some valuable information with him.

An attack upon Springfield had for some time been feared, and the object of the scont was to learn the strength and position of the enemy. There is now little apprehension of an attack, as it is evident that the enemy is very weak and timid in this region. We understand that Capt. Russell's company—which is one of the most efficient, and one that has done the most valuable service in this section—is now ordered to Bath to strengthen Col. Osborne. Colonel Dunning, of the Seventh Ohio regiment, is in

THE PRIZE CASES,

United States District Court.

Before Hon. Judge Betts.

Jan. 8.—The cases of the Sarah Clinton and Sally Ma. gee, prize vessels, were, on motion of Mr. Woo postponed to abide the decision of the Supreme Court at Washington, in similar causes already decided by this

Barclay) except in the presence of a government official and he might as well have the government to defend his client as to submit to this. He had seen Capt. Barclay Warren, where his counsel could not have any communi-cation with him.

Judge Betts asked if the Henry Middleton was a foreign

or an American yessel.

Mr. Donohue replied that she was claimed to be a

THE BRITISH PRIZE SHIP CER Charles Edwards read the affidavit of Thomas Sloce, late a passenger on board the Cheshire, and a supercargo, which states that he was present, on the 6th of December last, when that vessel was selzed; that she was then commanded by Captain Craig, and had a chief mate named Dawson, a boatswain, a crew of ten seamen and two men who worked their passage, a cook and a boy; that Captain Craig, Mate Dawson, the ten seamen and et wo men who worked their passage were compelled to go and remain on board the United States ship Augusta, while only he (the deponant Homas Stone), with his wife-children and servant girl, and the boatswain, cook, boy and the remaining man who worked his passage were brought to New York in the Cheshire, with two prize officers and a prize crew, she sailing from Charless ton har for New York on the 8th December last, at which time the master, Craig, and others were on board the Augusta, and deponent has heard nothing of any of them since, aithough he has made diligent injury. He also states that the Cheshire is owned by Mr. Joseph Battersby, a British subject of Manchester, England, and who also owns all iron therein, which is used abaliast; the cargo is owned by Joseph and William Battersby.

Mr. Edwards moved to discharge the Cheshire from

custody.

Mr. Woodford opposed, and the Court refused the mo-tion, with a privilige to Mr. Edwards to renew on notice to the District Attorney. Release of Ex-Governor Morehead, of

Ex-Governor Morehead, of Kentucky, has been release from Fort Warren on his parole, and preceeded im

diately to New York.

American Stone Fleets vs. British Stone

ports by means of a stone fleet, perhaps it may not be out of place to refer them to the acts of the commanders on Lake Champlain during the war of 1812 (see Cooper's Hintory, vol. 2, page 34), when the enemy attempted to fill up the harbor of Otter creek by sinking several vessels loaded with stones.

This enterprise had for its authors and would be perpetrators many of the shining lights of British aristocracy—Sir James Prevost, Lieutenant General de Rottenburg Major Genoral Brisbane Power, Robinson and Bynes Aiso, the commander of the ficet, Sir James Yeo.

This was legitimate war, when practised by the British on Americans, and they would not have blushed if they could have sealed up Commoders & Ghomough's squadred in Otter creek. On the contrary, it would have been the very best ariangement they could have made, as it would have saved their fleet from capture a short time afterwards by McDonough, with a very inferior force.

GRANITE